



United States Department of Agriculture

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The title "CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM" is centered. "CONSERVATION" is in a light green sans-serif font, "STEWARDSHIP" is in a teal sans-serif font, and "PROGRAM" is in a dark blue sans-serif font. To the right of "CONSERVATION" are three green leaves. To the right of "PROGRAM" is a brown root system. A blue wavy line is positioned to the left of "PROGRAM".

Building Better Outcomes





The CSP Footprint

70 million acres
of productive ag
and forest land

Active
conservation
on working
lands

An array of resource
benefits for the
American people



Uniquely CSP



Stewardship on working lands



Conservation enhancements



Enhancement and “bundles”



Advances producers' business goals





United States Department of Agriculture

CSP *at work*



- Improved Soil Health
- Increased Productivity
- Reduced Erosion
- Improved Wildlife Habitat





CSP *at work*



- Improved Forage Production & Quality
- Optimized Animal Health
- Improved Wildlife Habitat
- Self-sustaining Operation





CSP *at work*



- Improved Crop Productivity
- Improved Plant Health
- Improved Wildlife Habitat
- Increased Pollinator Habitat





The Next Steps for a Successful Program

Providing greater flexibility

Responding to customer and partner feedback

Advancing precision conservation

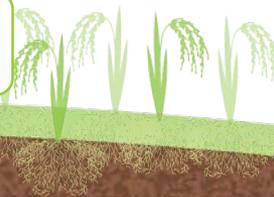
Demonstrating outcomes better





Straightforward Conservation

- 
- Redesign program tools for clearer, more logical process
 - Engage stronger conservation planning
 - Foster collaboration between applicants and NRCS planners
 - Provide more options for producers
 - Improve connection with enhancements and resource concerns
 - Support farm and ranch business planning and goals





Coordination with Other NRCS Programs

**Connect
with
conservation
planning and
CTA**

**Better
incorporate
practice
standards
and quality
criteria**

**Improve
coordination
with
practices
and EQIP**

**Integrate
with other
NRCS field
business
tools**





United States Department of Agriculture

Better Connection to our Conservation Standards



**Enhancements
linked to
conservation
practices**



**More
enhancements
and
conservation
practices offered**



**Better reporting
tools get a
improved picture
of results**





Greater Flexibility



More flexibility for state and local offices to set resource priorities

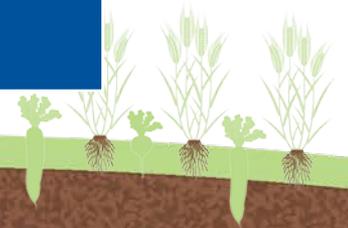


Easier for farmers and ranchers to make changes to their CSP contracts



Promotion of Local Priorities

- Provides a more locally-led process
- Offers greater ability to address region-specific natural resource concerns
- Contracts will be ranked according to how they address local resource concerns
- States have options to request additional enhancements in future years





The Role of Partners & Stakeholders



Partners & stakeholders provide valuable input



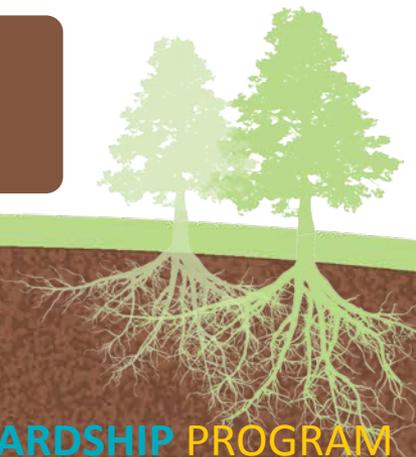
Input is essential for effective program delivery & results



New ideas are welcomed



Feedback important for future improvements





Determining Targeted Priority Resource Concerns

States have 10 priority resource concerns to choose from

Each State identifies five

Used to prioritize applications

Used to determine eligibility





Developing the Ranking Questions

State Technical Committee and local work groups have input

Ranking process evaluates applications and prioritizes them for funding

NRCS will develop local issue questions based on state, local input

National and state questions developed for FY17 from partner and stakeholder input at national level

Questions are based on resource concerns and do not consider the size of an operation





United States Department of Agriculture

Providing Information & Outreach





For additional information:

Partners and stakeholders who are interested in providing input can do so through the State Technical Committee meetings as well as the Local Working Group meetings.

- CSP National Website

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/csp/>

- Point of Contact 701-530-2000

Todd Hagel, ASTC-Programs

todd.hagel@nd.usda.gov

Ron Herr, CSP program Manager

ronald.herr@nd.usda.gov

Mary Podoll, STC

mary.podoll@nd.usda.gov

